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Chap. F 74

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

JOHN LAKIN'S DEED, 1653.

Communicated by the Hon. SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D., of Boston.

THE following deed by indenture, once belonging to John Lakin, of Groton, was found several years ago among some old papers in that town. In early times deeds were often given in this form, as there was then no general system of public registration. Lakin was a native of England, who came to this country with his elder brother William, his mother, and his grandfather Lakin. The family settled first at Reading, where the name was sometimes spelled Laukin; and a few years later they were all living at Groton. In the spring of 1655 the two brothers were petitioners for the Groton Plantation, and both were original proprietors of the town, each owning a twenty-acre right. Their names are given in the fac-simile copy of the petition, printed in the REGISTER (xxxvi. 23) for January, 1882, where it is stated that the signatures appended to the document vary in the style of hand-writing, though they do not appear to be autographs, and may have been written by the same person. From the resemblance between Lakin's signature to this deed and several of the signatures to the petition, I am inclined to think that he wrote some of the names on that paper; and perhaps William Martin, who heads the list of signers, wrote others.



John Lakin married Mary, daughter of Michael Bacon, as appears from a communication in the REGISTER (xli. 262) for July, 1887; and George Polle (or Polly) married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Winn, as appears from Sewall's History of Woburn (page 630); and these facts will account for their witnessing the deed.

The following is a copy of the instrument, line for line, with a facsimile of the two signatures in exact size:—

Know all men by this present Writing that I Gorg polle do
acknoledg the whol sale with the Consent of my wife of all
The land and buldding I haue be longing to me liing in the boundes
of Woborne with all the Rightes and preuiliids that now doth or
shall for ener here after be long to the saide land and Buldding
with all the pertickiliars that here after as expressed Namely the
Dwelling hous with the Barne and three accors of brokeup land
a Joyning to the dwelling hous with all the un broken land all
the fensing be loingin to the house lott and mintene accors of land
Liing in the new Bridg feeld six accors liing be twixt a parsall of
land of sargin tides and a parsall of land of mores cleaveland and
three accors of brokeup land liing be twixt a parsall of land
of John Contlers and parsall of land of henneri Jeftes and
tenn accares of land liing be twixt a parsall of land of henneri
Jefts and a parsall of land of Thomas Browne with the fensing
that doth be long to the said land vn to John Lakin of Redding
To him his eares and a sines for ener in Considerrations of the
soumes of fifti pounds thirty pounds for the first pament in Corne
and Catel is to be tow oxen and tow Coues to be paide at mickcilms
Next and the Corne to be paid be twixt mickcilms and may day
And the Rest at that time twelmant after and for the Corne
in equall propotion in wheat in Rye in Endin Corne and the said gorg
polle is to do halfe the worke of digin of a sealler and stonning it
and the said gorg polle is to do halfe the wrke of digin a well to
get watter and to stone it at any Conueniant time when the
saide iohn lakin shall Require him and the said gorg polle is to

set up the howse of the barne afore said souffissintli now
 preasant ly and the said gorg polle is to haue his Cattel at
 eaight yeres ould or under all but tow oxen) the parties aboue
 written here vn to set to Both there Hands this present day
 the 10 of aprill 1653

Witness in the presanc of vs

Michaell bacon

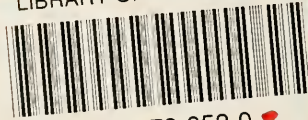
Edward winn

his
 gorg polle
 X
 marke

John Lakin

[Reprinted from the New-England Historical and Genealogical Register for January, 1891.]

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